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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4615  
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RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 4650  
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY 3116

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 002744

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 06/18/2017  
TAGS: [PHUM](#) [PREL](#) [UNHCR](#) [AADP](#) [JA](#)  
SUBJECT: JAPAN WILL SUPPORT DE ALBA PROPOSAL TO UNHRC

REF: A. TOKYO 2651  
[1](#)B. STATE 80095

Classified By: Political Section Deputy Carol T. Reynolds. Reasons 1.4  
(b) and (d).

(C) Embassy Tokyo Political Officer contacted Yoriko Suzuki, Principal Deputy Director for MOFA's Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs Division, to follow up on ref B message concerning Japan's position on retaining UNHRC country specific mandates for Cuba and Belarus and inclusion of any Israel-related items to the Council's agenda. Suzuki said that UNHRC Ambassador De Alba would be submitting a proposal retaining two country specific mandates (North Korea and Myanmar), but dropping Cuba and Belarus. Furthermore, Article 7 of De Alba's proposal will mention "Human Rights violations in Palestine and other occupied Arab territories."

Part 2 of Article Seven, according to Suzuki, mentions Palestine's right to self-determination. Suzuki said that while the text of the proposal does not mention Israel by name, an annex does specifically mention human rights abuses related to "Israel's occupation of Palestine." When asked whether Japan would support this proposal, she replied that Japan found it to be an "acceptable compromise" and that it is "high time to come to an agreement on this issue so that the council can focus on institution building."  
SCHIEFFER